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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,596	07/15/2003	Atsushi Yokoyama	32014-189822	6864
26694	7590	01/12/2005		
VENABLE, BAETJER, HOWARD AND CIVILETTI, LLP			EXAMINER	
P.O. BOX 34385			GAUTHIER, GERALD	
WASHINGTON, DC 20043-9998			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2645	

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/618,596	YOKOYAMA, ATSUSHI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Gerald Gauthier	2645

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 - 1.) Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2.) Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3.) Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102, that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claim(s) 12** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsumoto et al. (US 5,819,212).

Regarding **claim(s) 12**, Matsumoto discloses a voice coding device (column 1, lines 7-15) comprising:

- an LSP quantizer that quantizes LSP parameters (column 5, lines 31-35) [The LSP quantizer 134 quantizes the LSP parameters];
- an LSP multi-stage quantizer that quantizes quantization error components that the LSP quantizer is impossible to express (column 5, lines 36-49) [The LSP interpolation circuit 136 interpolates a set of current frame of LSP vectors every 20msec to quantize error in the frame];

- a pitch component coder that attains pitch components from linear predictive errors (column 6, lines 13-18) [The pitch analysis circuit 115 executes pitch analysis in every frame for predictive pitch lagging];

an excitation source coder in which an excitation source is configured with a multi-stage code book (column 10, lines 59-65) [The encoding unit 320 uses the configuration of code excitation linear protection with multi-band encoding];

an essential code output unit that outputs a code essential to decoding from the output of the LSP quantizer, the pitch component coder, and the excitation source coder (column 18, lines 26-35) [The decoder side executes the inverse coding to reproduce the sound and vector quantization are executed in multi-stage for enabling a higher rate operation]; and

a sound quality improving code output unit that outputs a code to improve a decoded sound quality from the output of the LSP multi-stage quantizer and the excitation source coder (column 8, lines 46-52) [The data that are transmitted from all of the terminals, are decoded on the output side with high sound quality].

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Nishiguchi et al. is cited for a vector quantization and speech encoding (FIG. 1).

Iijima et al. is cited for a speech decoding selecting random noise code vectors as excitation signals for an unvoiced speech frame (FIG. 1).

Yasunaga et al. is cited for producing component of excitation vector (FIG. 1).

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerald Gauthier whose telephone number is (703) 305-0981. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (703) 305-4895. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GERALD GAUTHIER
PATENT EXAMINER

g.g.
January 5, 2005


FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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